



Safeguarding Your Voter Registration Information



For more than 200 years the states and federal government have disagreed about the administration of elections.

They’ve argued over jurisdiction, election procedures and who is ultimately responsible for preventing voter fraud and voter suppression.

That back and forth continues today in the form of a request from the federal government to review Arizona’s private voter registration data. While public record requests for the state’s list of voters occur quite frequently, this was not a standard request. In fact, the letter we received was quite different than we originally anticipated.

On June 30th, we became aware that the Presidential Advisory Commission on Election Integrity was sending us a request for Arizona’s voter registration information. Under normal circumstances, election officials are required to provide a list of voters to anyone who files a formal request, swears that it won’t be used for a commercial purpose and pays a required fee. Once we received the letter a few days later, we were surprised to find out the request went beyond what is publicly available and asked for personal information like social security number, mother’s maiden name and full date of birth. Most concerning, the Commission stated the information would be publicly shared, which is not allowed under Arizona law.

For me, protecting your registration information is extremely important and the idea that we would provide sensitive information without a complete understanding of how the data would be safeguarded - plus a guarantee it would not be shared - was simply unacceptable.

I wholeheartedly support the Commission’s goal to ensure the accuracy of our rolls and root out fraud. Over the years I’ve prioritized election integrity and we remain vigilant for anyone attempting to illegally influence the outcome of our elections.

For example, Arizona has participated in the Interstate Crosscheck program for years. The system allows 30 states to clean their rolls and look for possible instances of fraud. None of the information is shared outside of the group and once the review is complete, each state receives a report indicating if further investigation is necessary. I, along with our each of our County Recorders, agree that the Crosscheck program is an important tool to ensure our rolls are accurate.

The truth is, many people don’t realize that state and federal law already make much of your information publicly accessible. Political parties, candidates and activist groups frequently request your information, including your phone number, address, how often you vote and your political party. Until the laws are changed to prevent organizations from collecting that information, I will do my best to ensure voters' confidential information contained in the file is never shared.

E-Qual Nomination System Launched



In an effort to make the candidate nomination process more efficient and secure for voters and candidates, the Arizona Secretary of State's office has officially launched E-Qual for 2018.

The electronic candidate petition system matches the voter with the candidates for which they are eligible to sign a nominating petition after a voter's identity is authenticated. Federal, statewide and legislative candidates are eligible for E-Qual.

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Phoenix New Times Covers Research Library Move and Future Capitol Museum Expansion



In July 2017, the Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records began relocating collections from the library space in the 1938 Addition of the Capitol to the Polly Rosenbaum Building adjacent to the state capitol complex.

[Here's Why the Research Library at the Arizona Capitol Is Moving](#)

Monday, July 10, 2017 at 6 A.M.

By Sativa Peterson

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1700 W. Washington St. Fl 7

Phoenix AZ 85007

(602) 542-4285